BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

)))
) Case No. 800-2017-032892
))
)
)

DECISION

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on $\frac{April 17, 201}{}$ 8.

IT IS SO ORDERED April 10, 2018.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Kimberly Kirchmeyer

Executive Director

1	XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California			
2	MARY ČAIN-SIMON Supervising Deputy Attorney General			
3	GREG W. CHAMBERS Deputy Attorney General			
4	State Bar No. 237509 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000			
5	San Francisco, CA 94102-7004 Telephone: (415) 510-3382			
6	Facsimile: (415) 703-5480 Attorneys for Complainant	· •		
7	BEFORE THE			
8 9	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
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11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2017-032892		
12	RAJESH KUMAR SINGLA, M.D. 824 Sonnet Dr Vacaville, CA 95687-7261	STIPULATED SURRENDER OF LICENSE AND ORDER		
13 14	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 133480	•		
15 16	Respondent.			
17	In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of this matter, consistent with the public			
18	interest and the responsibility of the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer			
19	Affairs, the parties hereby agree to the following Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order			
20	which will be submitted to the Board for approval and adoption as the final disposition of the			
21	Accusation.			
22	<u>PARTIES</u>			
23	1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board			
24	of California (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in			
25	this matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Greg W. Chambers			
26	Deputy Attorney General.			
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- 2. Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney John L. Fleer, whose address is 1850 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Suite 120, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.
- 3. On or about December 1, 2014, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 133480 to Respondent. The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 800-2017-032892 and will expire on October 31, 2018, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 800-2017-032892 was filed before the Board and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on August 8, 2017. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2017-032892 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2017-032892. Respondent also has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

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CULPABILITY

- 8. Respondent understands that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2017-032892, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate, No. A133480.
- 9. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation and that those charges constitute cause for discipline. Respondent hereby gives up his right to contest that cause for discipline exists based on those charges.
- 10. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate without further process.

CONTINGENCY

- 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order:

15.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 133480, issued to Respondent Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D., is surrendered and accepted by the Medical Board of California.

- 1. The surrender of Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Medical Board of California.
- 2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a Physician and Surgeon in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- 3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board his pocket license and, if one was issued, his wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.
- 4. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked or surrendered license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2017-032892 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.
- 5. If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or petition for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation, No. 800-2017-032892 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny or restrict licensure.

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ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, John L. Fleer. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED: 03/28/2018

RAJESH KUMAR SINGLA, M.D.

Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent RAJESH KUMAR SINGLA, M.D. the terms and conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and

Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: 3-29-18

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JOHN L. FLEER, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated: 12,2018

Respectfully submitted.

XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
JANE ZACK SIMON
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

GREG W. CHAMBERS
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

27 || SF2017401618 28 || Stipulation for surrender.rtf

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2017-032892

	<u> </u>		
1 2 3 4 5 6	XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California JANE ZACK SIMON Supervising Deputy Attorney General GREG W. CHAMBERS Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 237509 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004 Telephone: (415) 703-5572 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480 Attorneys for Complainant	FILED STATE OF CALIFORNIA MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA SACRAMENTO COMPAGE & 20 11 BY TOWN ANALYST	
8	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA		
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
	STATE OF C	ALIFORNIA	
10 11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2017-032892	
12	Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D. 824 Sonnet Dr	ACCUSATION	
13	Vacaville, CA 95687-7261	·	
14	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A133480,		
15	Respondent.		
16	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	•	
17	Complainant alleges:		
18	<u>PARTIES</u>		
19	1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official		
20	capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer		
21	Affairs (Board).		
22	2. On or about December 1, 2014, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's		
23	Certificate Number A133480 to Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and		
24	Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought		
25	herein and will expire on October 31, 2018, unless renewed. Said certificate is suspended		
26	pursuant to an Interim Suspension Order issued on July 20, 2017.		
27			
28	¹ The term "Board" means the Medical Board of California. "Division of Medical Quality" shall also be deemed to refer to the Board. (Bus. & Prof. Code, section 2002).		
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(RAJESH KUMAR SINGLA, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2017-032893

JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the Medical Practice Act may have his or her license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed one year, placed on probation and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other action taken in relation to discipline as the Division deems proper.
 - 5. Section 2234 of the Code states:

"The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- "(a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.
 - "(b) Gross negligence.
- "(c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent acts or omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and distinct departure from the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated negligent acts.
- "(1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically appropriate for that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single negligent act.
- "(2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or omission that constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, a reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the licensee's conduct departs from the applicable standard of care, each departure constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the standard of care.
 - "(d) Incompetence.
- "(e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.
 - "(f) Any action or conduct which would have warranted the denial of a certificate.

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 "(g) The practice of medicine from this state into another state or country without meeting the legal requirements of that state or country for the practice of medicine. Section 2314 shall not apply to this subdivision. This subdivision shall become operative upon the implementation of the proposed registration program described in Section 2052.5.

"(h) The repeated failure by a certificate holder, in the absence of good cause, to attend and participate in an interview by the board. This subdivision shall only apply to a certificate holder who is the subject of an investigation by the board."

- 6. Section 726 of the Code states:
- (a) The commission of any act of sexual abuse, misconduct, or relations with a patient, client, or customer constitutes unprofessional conduct and grounds for disciplinary action for any person licensed under this division or under any initiative act referred to in this division.
- (b) This section shall not apply to consensual sexual contact between a licensee and his or her spouse or person in an equivalent domestic relationship when that licensee provides medical treatment, other than psychotherapeutic treatment, to his or her spouse or person in an equivalent domestic relationship.

FACTS

- 7. Respondent Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D. is subject to disciplinary for unprofessional conduct action under sections 2234 and 726 of the Code. The circumstances are as follows:
- 8. On or about Friday, April 28, 2017, Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D. called Jane Doe,² a patient of his, who was not his spouse or person in an equivalent domestic relationship, and requested that she schedule an office appointment for the next day. Dr. Singla, a family practice physician, holds office hours Monday through Friday, and two Saturdays a month. Jane Doe complied, and on or about Saturday, April 29, 2017, she appeared at Dr. Singla's office at the medical office in Walnut Creek, California.
- 9. During the patient visit, Dr. Singla claimed that he wanted to check the dosage of Jane Doe's blood pressure medication. Seated in a chair in close proximity to Jane Doe, Dr.

² The patient will be identified as Jane Doe to protect her privacy. Respondent knows the name of the patient and can confirm her identity through discovery.

Singla grabbed her hand. Jane Doe pulled her hand away, and Dr. Singla tried to place his hand on her breast. Jane Doe pulled away, saying, "No!" Dr. Singla moved closer to Jane Doe and pulled down her shirt. Jane Doe continued to say, "No." Dr. Singla grabbed her breast and placed his mouth on her breast. Jane Doe continued to say, "No," and attempted to push him away.

- 10. Dr. Singla then unzipped his pants, exposing his erect penis, grabbed Jane Doe's hand, and forced her to touch his penis. Jane Doe pulled her hand back only to have Dr. Singla grab her hair and pull her head down toward his penis, stating, "kiss it." Soon after, Dr. Singla ejaculated on Jane Doe's face and clothing.
- 11. On or about May 4, 2017, Jane Doe made a pretext call to Dr. Singla with law enforcement officers from the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office present and listening, recording the phone call. In the course of that interview the following recorded exchanges occurred:

Jane Doe: So if you respect me why did that happen?

Dr. Singla: I'm sorry about it.

12. Additionally, the following exchanges occurred between the two parties:

Jane Doe: Like why not anybody else, why me? Why did you choose me? That's my main thing.

Dr. Singla: No, I say, you know, l-1 told you in the past, you know, but you know, I was attracted, yes. I'm still.

XXXXXXXX

Dr. Singla: Well, I – I've never disrespected, okay? I still respect you, okay? I never thought about you like that. Okay? That I can come on and do something like that.

Jane Doe: So what happened? What was on Saturday?

Dr. Singla: I don't know, something just happened you know? It was just a moment of the time.

Jane Doe: But it was a moment that time it just happened? It happened twice. It's happened twice so far.

Dr. Singla: Yeah, just as I've said, just said, you know, it was one of those things that happen, so, just saying I'm sorry about that, won't happen again.

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Jane Doe: So basically, if I'm in the room with you, they don't, because I – I would like to discuss this case with you, you know? And I don't know how to feel about myself. How to fee—at least tell me—at least tell me whether you felt bad or good. That's all I want to know. Do you think I'd know...

Dr. Singla: I feel bad that I did that. I said that I felt bad that I did that, but I wo—I won't do that again.

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Jane Doe: So, so then the masturbation you know, it's not going to happen again? Dr. Singla: No.

- 13. On or about May 8, 2017, Dr. Singla was interviewed by Detective N. M. and he informed Detective N.M. that Jane Doe was attracted to him. Additionally, Dr. Singla stated that Jane Doe started touching Dr. Singla's erect penis over his clothes during that April 29, 2017, patient visit. According to Dr. Singla, Jane Doe then unzipped his pants and pulled out his penis, touched it for few seconds with her hand and he ejaculated.
- 14. During that May 8, 2017 interview Dr. Singla stated that a similar incident had occurred previously with the same patient approximately one month earlier.
- 15. According to patient Jane Doe, on or about March 17, 2017, patient Jane Doe was lying face down on a table as Dr. Singla checked her breathing. Dr. Singla walked away from Jane Doe, out of her line of vision. Jane Doe looked back and saw Dr. Singla standing in the corner of his examination room, his penis out, masturbating as he stared at Jane Doe.
- 16. In or about February 2017, Jane Doe requested a change in medical doctors through her medical provider, but she was in a serious car accident and did not complete the change to a new medical treater.
- 17. On or about May 8, 2017, Det. N.M. asked Dr. Singla if he would write a letter to Jane Doe to express his feelings. Dr Singla wrote:

I am sorry for whatever happened during your last visit. I didn't meant (sic) to do that. I never forced myself on to you. I had always wanted best for you. I hope you will be able to forgive me.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct - Substantially Related to the Practice of Medicine)

Respondent Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under Business and Professions Code section 2234 for unprofessional conduct, as described above.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Sexual Misconduct)

18. Respondent Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under Business and Professions Code section 726 for sexual misconduct or relations with a patient who was not a spouse or person in an equivalent domestic relationship when Respondent provided medical treatment to that patient, as described above.

PRAYER

· WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision:

- I. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A133480, issued to Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D.;
- Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;
- 3. Ordering Rajesh Kumar Singla, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay the Board the costs of probation monitoring; and
 - Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

2017 DATED: August 8,

Executive Director

Medical Board of California Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant